

(1) the country has established by law a requirement that employees in that country who are compensated on an hourly basis be compensated at a rate of not less than \$1 per hour; and

(2) the goods imported from that country that are eligible for such benefits are produced in accordance with that law.

This section shall become effective one day after enactment.

AMENDMENT NO. 2422

Strike all after the first word and insert the following:

SEC. . MINIMUM WAGE.

(a) INCREASE.—Paragraph (1) of section 6(a) of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 (29 U.S.C. 206(a)(1)) is amended to read as follows:

“(1) except as otherwise provided in this section, not less than—

“(A) \$5.65 an hour during the year beginning on January 1, 2000; and

“(B) \$6.15 an hour beginning on January 1, 2001.”

(b) APPLICATION TO COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS.—The provisions of section 6 of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 (29 U.S.C. 206) shall apply to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

AMENDMENT NO. 2423

At the appropriate place insert the following:

SEC. . LABOR AGREEMENT REQUIRED.

The benefits provided by the amendments made by this Act shall not become available to any country until—

(1) the President has negotiated with that country a side agreement concerning labor standards, similar to the North American Agreement on Labor Cooperation (as defined in section 532(b)(2) of the Trade Agreements Act of 1979 (19 U.S.C. 3471(b)(2)); and

(2) submitted that agreement to the Congress.

This section shall become effective one day after enactment.

AMENDMENT NO. 2424

At the appropriate place insert the following:

SEC. . CHILD LABOR LAW REQUIREMENT.

The benefits provided by the amendments made by this Act shall not be available to any country unless the President determines that—

(1) the country prohibits by law the employment of children under the age of 14 in the manufacture and production of goods; and

(2) no goods exported from that country to the United States produced in violation of that law received those benefits.

This section shall become effective one day after enactment.

HELMS AMENDMENT NO. 2425

(Ordered to lie on the table.)

Mr. HELMS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to amendment No. 2401 submitted by Mr. ASHCROFT to the bill, H.R. 434, supra; as follows:

Strike section 2(a)(1) and insert the following:

(1) AGRICULTURAL COMMODITY.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term “agricultural commodity” has the meaning given that term in section 402(2) of the Agricultural Trade Development and Assistance Act of 1954 (7 U.S.C. 1732(2)).

(B) EXCLUSION.—The term does not include any pesticide, fertilizer, or agricultural machinery or equipment.

Strike section 2(c)(1) and insert the following:

(1) against a foreign country with respect to which—

(A) Congress has declared war or enacted a law containing specific authorization for the use of force;

(B) the United States is involved in ongoing hostilities; or

(C) the President has proclaimed a state of national emergency; or

At the end of section 2(c)(2)(C), add the following:

(C) used or could be used to facilitate the development or production of a chemical or biological weapon or weapons of mass destruction.

Strike section (2)(d) and insert the following:

(d) COUNTRIES SUPPORTING INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM.—This section shall not affect the prohibitions in effect on the date of enactment of this Act under section 620A of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2371), on providing, to the government, or a corporation, partnership, or entity owned or controlled by the government, of any country supporting international terrorism, United States Government assistance, including United States foreign assistance, United States export assistance, or any United States credits or credit guarantees.

HELMS AMENDMENT NO. 2426

(Ordered to lie on the table.)

Mr. HELMS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to amendment No. 2361 submitted by Mr. CONRAD to the bill, H.R. 434, supra; as follows:

Strike section 2(a)(1) and insert the following:

(1) AGRICULTURAL COMMODITY.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term “agricultural commodity” has the meaning given that term in section 402(2) of the Agricultural Trade Development and Assistance Act of 1954 (7 U.S.C. 1732(2)).

(B) EXCLUSION.—The term does not include any pesticide, fertilizer, or agricultural machinery or equipment.

Strike section 2(c)(1) and insert the following:

(1) against a foreign country with respect to which—

(A) Congress has declared war or enacted a law containing specific authorization for the use of force;

(B) the United States is involved in ongoing hostilities; or

(C) the President has proclaimed a state of national emergency; or

At the end of section 2(c)(2)(C), add the following:

(C) used or could be used to facilitate the development or production of a chemical or biological weapon or weapons of mass destruction.

Strike section (2)(d) and insert the following:

(d) COUNTRIES SUPPORTING INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM.—This section shall not affect the prohibitions in effect on the date of enactment of this Act under section 620A of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2371), on providing, to the government, or a corporation, partnership, or entity owned or controlled by the government, of any country supporting international terrorism, United States Government assistance, including United States foreign assistance, United States export assistance, or any United States credits or credit guarantees.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEE TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Friday, October 29, 1999, at 10 a.m. to hold a hearing.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

UNITED NATIONS DAY

• Mr. GRAMS. Mr. President, as Chairman of the International Operations Subcommittee, which has United Nations oversight responsibilities, and having been appointed by the President to serve two terms as a congressional delegate to the United Nations, I have focused significant attention on the United Nations. On the anniversary of the founding of the United Nations, I think it is appropriate to take time for us all to reflect on that important institution.

Fifty-four years ago this week, the members of the United Nations' founding delegation met in San Francisco for the signing ceremony that created the United Nations. There was great anticipation and a collective enthusiasm for this new, global institution. Delegates spoke of hope, of expectation, of the promise of peace. President Truman echoed the thoughts of those founding members when he told the delegates they had, “created a great instrument for peace and security and human progress in the world.” Fifty-four years later, however, the United Nations is struggling to meet its potential.

In Congress, the need for the United Nations to reform itself often overshadows the activities United Nations does well. As we saw in the Persian Gulf war, the United Nations can play a useful role in building coalitions to address matters of international security. Moreover, the United Nations has the ability to effectively conduct traditional peacekeeping operations, such as those in Cyprus and the Sinai Peninsula, where hostilities have ceased and all parties agree to the U.N. peacekeeping role. In the areas of humanitarian relief, child survival, and refugee assistance, much of the work of UNICEF and the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees deserves praise. And many of the U.N. agencies that focus on technical cooperation play a crucial role in establishing and coordinating international standards for governments and businesses, including the International Civil Aviation Organization, the International Telecommunications Union, the Universal Postal Union, and the World Intellectual Property Organization.

However, the ability of the United Nations to live up to the goals stated